

Message Text

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TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

S E C R E T STATE 261056

EXDIS, TOSEC 513

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LINE OMMITTED PARA 2 SUB PARA 4)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOC, PORG, CB IC, UN

SUBJECT:MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY ON KHMER REPRESENTATION

M THE ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT HAS REVERSED ITS EARLIER
COMMITMENT TO US TO SUPPORT PRIOCITY FOR AND SUBSTANCE
OF THE ASEAN RESOLUTION ON KHMEC REPRESENTATION. WE FEEL
THAT YOU SHOULD ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FONMIN
AGUSTSSON IN ORDER TO GET HIM TO REVERSE HIS FIELD. IF
YOU CONCUR AND IN VIEW OF FACT THAT THE VOTE MAY COME
WEDNESDAY EVENING, PLEASE ADDRESS APPROVAL MESSAGE TO
REYKJAVIK.

FOR REYKJAVIK: ON RECEIPT SECRETARY(S APPROVAL
PLEASE INFORM PM HALLGRIMSSOM OF YOUR DEMARCHE TO THE
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FONMIN AND REPORT REACTIONS BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.

2. BEGIN QUOTE. DEAR MR. MINISTER: I REGRET THAT OUR MEETING IN WASHINGTON LAST SEPTEMBER TIME WAS TOO SHORT TO DISCUSS ALL OF THE ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO US. I AM THEREFORE TAKING THIS MEANS OF BRINGING TO YOUR ATTENTION A MATTER TO WHICH I ATTACH THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE AND ON WHICH I EARNESTLY SEEK YOUR GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT. I REFER TO THE PROBLEM OF CAMBODIA AND, MORE PARTICULARLY, TO THE DEBATE ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

IT IS THE VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT THE WAR IN CAMBODIA HAS GONE ON FAR TOO LONG AND HAS COST TOO MUCH IN TERMS OF LIVES, RESOURCES AND BITTERNESS. MY GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CAMBODIAN PROBLEM HAS BECOME AN URGENT NECESSITY. IT STANDS READY TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING SUCH A SOLUTION. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC, FOR ITS PART, HAS OFFERED TO NEGOTIATE WITH ITS OPPOSITION WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS. WE APPLAUD THIS OFFER AND HOPE THAT ALL PEACELOVING NATIONS WILL GIVE IT THEIR FULL SUPPORT. UNFORTUNATELY, THE OPPOSITION, WHICH IS LED BY FORMER CHIEF OF STATE, PRINCE NORODOM SIHANOUK, HAS REJECTED THE OFFER. THEIR ASSUMPTION IS APPARENTLY THAT A MILITARY VICTORY IS POSSIBLE. WE, FOR OUR PART, BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY RATIONAL COURSE IS TO SEEK AN END OF THE WAR THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT WE SUPPORT THE ACTION OF THE DELEGATION OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC IN THE UNITED NATIONS, AND OF THE DELEGATIONS OF ALL OF THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, TO ENCOURAGE A NEGOTIATED PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. THE ASIAN SUPPORTERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC HAVE PREPARED A RESOLUTION WHICH WILL ENCOURAGE THE PARTIES TO SEEK A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICT. THEY HAVE BEEN JOINED IN CO-SPONSORING THIS RESOLUTION BY A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD. IT IS MY HOPE, AND THAT OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ICELAND WILL FIND IT POSSIBLE TO GIVE THIS RESOLUTION ITS FULL SUPPORT.

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THE UNITED STATES, THEREFORE, STRONGLY OPPOSES ANY ATTEMPT TO ALLOW REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CAMBODIAN OPPOSITION TO TAKE THE SEAT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION WITH THAT OBJECTIVE IS NOT ONLY POLITICALLY BUT LEGALLY UNDESIRABLE AS FAR AS THE UNITED NATIONS ITSELF IS CONCERNED. MOREOVER, IN TERMS OF THE SUFFERING OF THE

CAMBODIAN PEOPLE, THE PASSAGE OF SUCH A RESOLUTION COULD WELL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO START NEGOTIATIONS TO END THE FIGHTING IN CAMBODIA.

I THINK YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD NOT INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL QUESTION OF WHO IS TO REPRESENT THE KHMER PEOPLE. MOREOVER, SEATING THE GRUNK, AN EXILE REGIME, IN THE UNITED NATIONS WOULD BE A MOST HARMFUL PRECEDENT. OTHER NATIONS MAY FIND THEMSELVES IN SIMILAR SITUATIONS IN THE FUTURE, WITH AN INSURGENT REGIME SUPPORTED BY EXTERNAL POWRS WHICH CLAIMS TO BE THE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

IT IS WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND, THEREFORE, THAT I EARNESTLY SEEK YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE ASIAN NEIGHBORS OF CAMBODIA AND FOR VOTING PRIORITY FOR IT. BEST REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER.
END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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